

## **Lesson One**

### ***Working Together: Countries and Flags of the Sea Island Summit***

#### **Activity 1**

What are the countries of the G8?

#### **Objective**

Students will become familiar with the G8 member nations and their flags and display.

#### **Resources**

- Outline Flags – Activity Sheet
- Glue, crayons, cord
- Internet access for the following websites:  
<http://g8usa.gov>  
<http://www.yahooligans.com>  
<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/geography/flags>

#### **Introduction**

The G8 (Group of Eight) is an informal group made up of the leaders of eight countries: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. These countries are some of the world's major industrial nations. The leaders of these countries meet on an annual basis to discuss critical issues facing the world as a whole.

The European Union has observer status at the G8 Summit. The President of the European Commission, His Excellency Romano Prodi, and the Leader of the country holding the Presidency of the European Council, currently the Prime Minister of Ireland, His Excellency Bertie Ahern, will represent the European Union. At previous Summits, leaders have discussed a wide range of international economic, political, and security issues.

The G8 began with a 1975 Summit in France which included six countries (France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States). Canada joined the group at the San Juan Summit of 1976, and the European Community began participation at the London Summit of 1977. Starting with the 1994 Naples Summit, Russia attended the political sessions of the Summit and at the 1998 Birmingham Summit, Russia began participating in all Summit sessions.

President George W. Bush will host the 30th G8 Summit at Sea Island, Georgia, on June 8-10, 2004. The United States assumed the Presidency of the G8 from France at the beginning of 2004. President Bush, Host of the 2004 G8 Summit, is looking forward to the opportunity to meet with the G8 Leaders in the informal and relaxed setting of Sea Island, Georgia. The Presidency of the G8, and responsibility of hosting the G8 Summit, rotates each year. Italy hosted the G8 Summit in Genoa in 2001, Canada hosted in Kananaskis in 2002, and France hosted in Evian in 2003. The United Kingdom will host

## Sea Island Summit

### *Primary School Lessons for Teaching About the G8*

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the G8 Summit in 2005 and Russia will host in 2006. For further background, see <http://g8usa.gov>.

#### **Task**

In this activity, students will locate information about the member nations of the G8 and print a picture to symbolize the country. Then, they will create a display of these symbols.

#### **Process**

Before the lesson, gather these materials for each of the project groups.

1. One bottle of glue
2. One red crayon
3. One blue crayon
4. One green crayon
5. One yellow crayon
6. One black crayon
7. Scissors
8. A 10 foot length of cord

Photocopy a set of country flags for each group of eight students (see next pages). Adjust the number of copies, as needed, to match the number of students in your class.

Begin the lesson by explaining that the United States will be hosting an important meeting with leaders from several countries. Share information from the Introduction (above), as appropriate for your age group. Ask students to name *their* country (United States) and leader (President George Bush). Write on a chalk or white board the names of each of the countries of the G8. Ask students to share a few facts they know about each one and write these on the board. Count off students to divide the class into groups of eight, adjusting as needed for your size class. Assign each student in the group a country from the G8 list. Explain to students that they will be going to the computer, media center or computer lab to locate more information about their country.

In a computer lab, have students work with students assigned to the same country. Demonstrate how to launch the Internet browser and link to Yahoo!igans! Then, show the students how to search for information and pictures about their country by typing the country name in the Search box and clicking Search button. Look for a link with pictures of the country. Allow students to find several key facts about the country and write these on paper to take back to class. They may share information with other students researching the same country. When students find a good picture to symbolize the country, have them right-click on the picture and choose "Print Picture" (older web browsers will require users to click File and choose Print, to print the entire page). Return to the classroom for the next activity.

Have students sit with their groups. Allow them to discuss the pictures they found and the facts they collected about their country. Distribute the following to each group: one

## Sea Island Summit

### *Primary School Lessons for Teaching About the G8*

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poster board, scissors, markers or crayons, glue. Have students cut out their pictures and paste them on the board. They should label the pictures to show what country they represent. If time allows, have students write some of their facts on the poster. Label the poster “Countries of the Sea Island Summit.”

Allow groups to share and discuss their posters with the class.

### **Activity 2**

What are the country flags of the G8?

#### **Objective**

Students will become familiar with the G8 member nations’ flags.

#### **Task**

Students will create a display of the G8 member nations’ flags while working in a cooperative task.

#### **Process**

Explain to students that countries have learned to work together on many things, such as trade, defense, etc. Explain that each group will have a chance to practice working together to see if they can complete a project. Stress that the group must find a way to work together in order to get the task finished in the allotted time.

Have students sit with their groups. Give each member of the group an outline of their country’s flag and their correct craft item (see below).

United States – glue

Canada – red crayon

France – blue crayon

Germany – green crayon

Italy – yellow crayon

Japan – black crayon

Russia – scissors

United Kingdom – cord

Instruct students that their task is to color each flag correctly. Then, they are to cut out the flags on the dotted lines and fold the long tab on the dashed line. On the back of the short fold, place a thin bead of glue. Drape the flag over the cord and press the small tab onto the back of the flag. The flag should now be hanging in place. Put each flag in the correct order (see below). The challenge is that, just like the G8 members, there are limited resources! Students are not allowed to use other scissors or crayons, they must find a way to share their resources or the displays will not be ready in time.



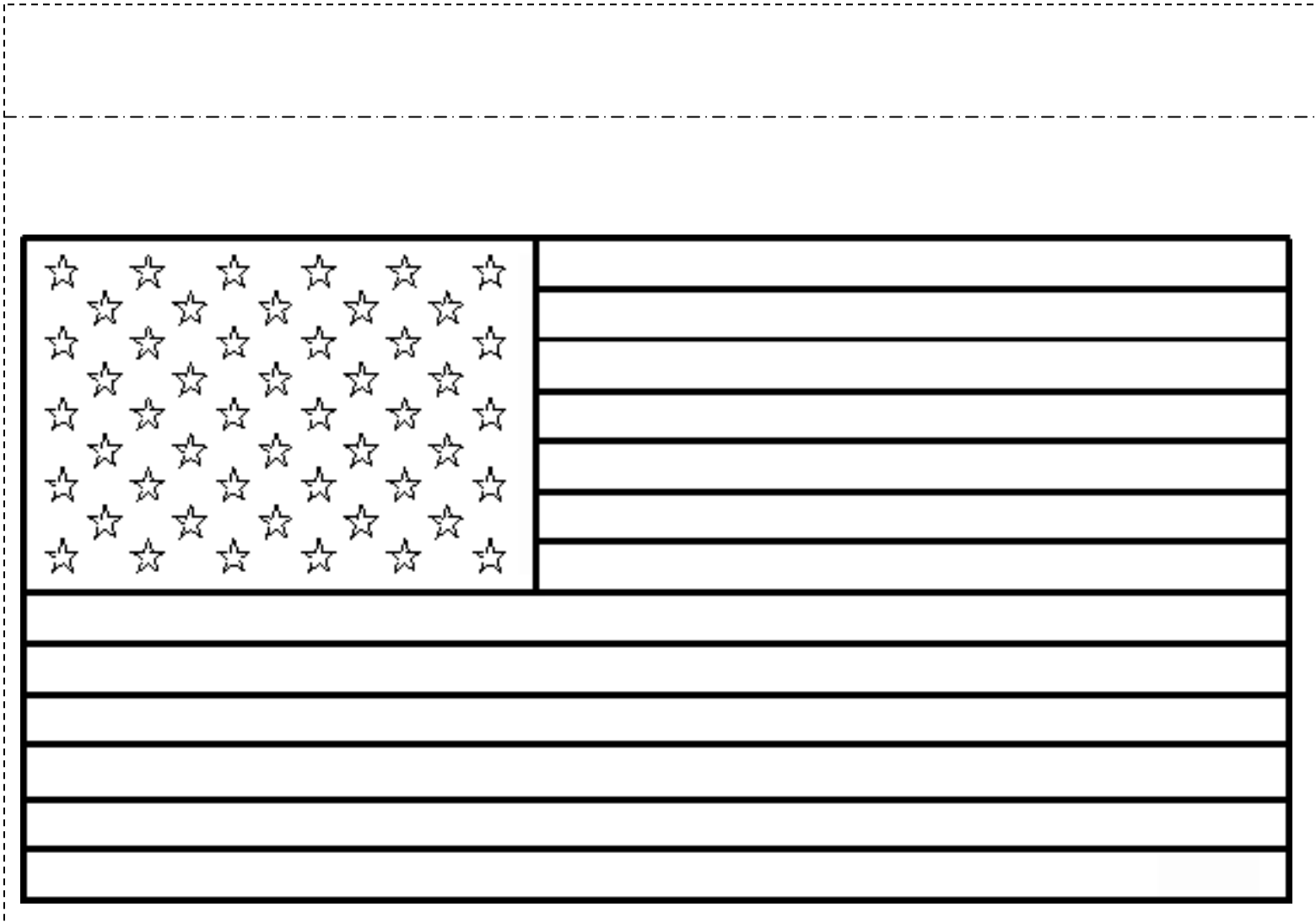
Hang the completed flag displays in classroom or other prominent display area in the school. If you have a digital camera, consider taking the groups’ pictures in front of the completed display.

**Sea Island Summit**  
*Primary School Lessons for Teaching About the G8*

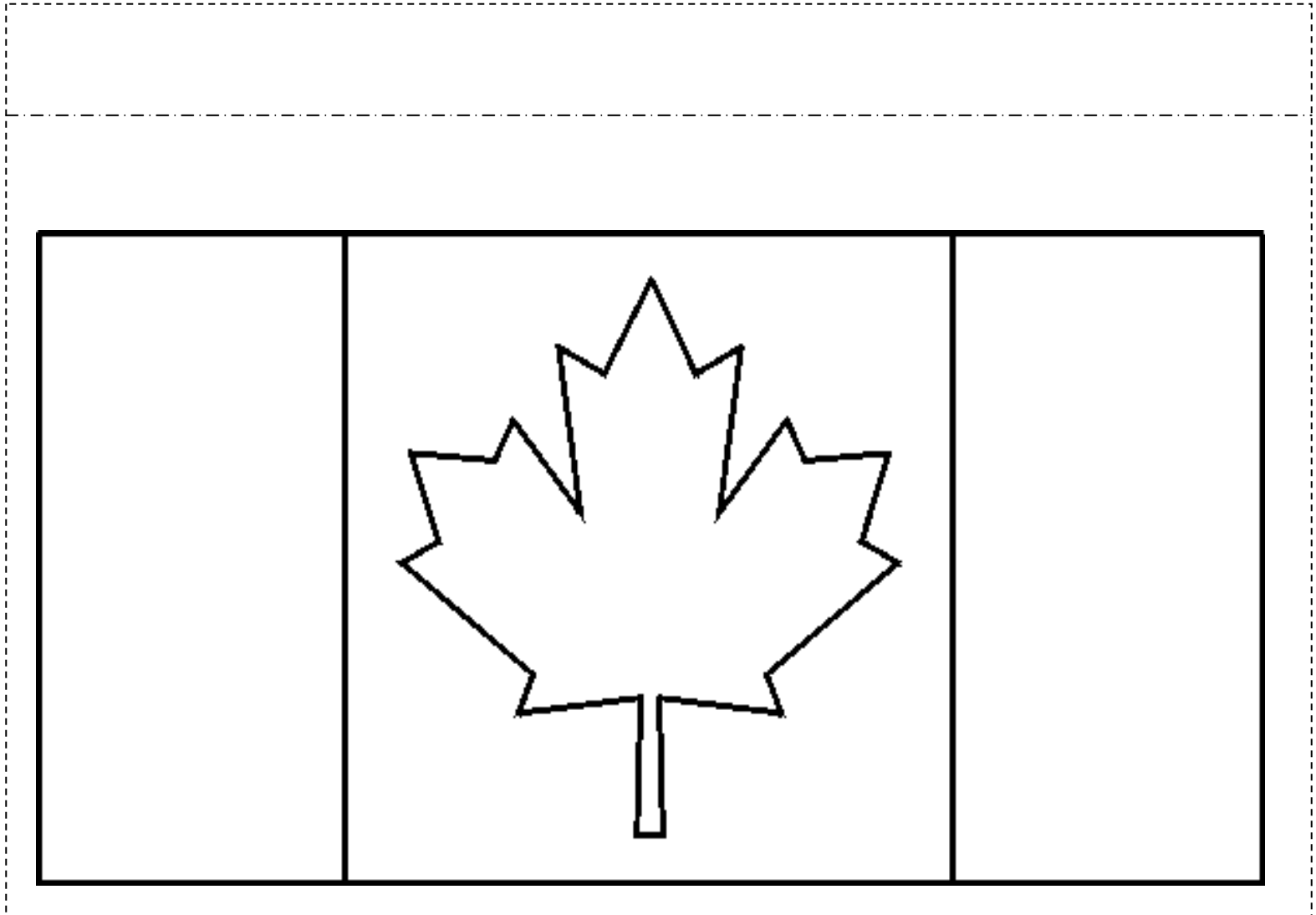
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Close the lesson with a discussion of the problems the students faced completing the task with limited resources. Discuss how much time the project took to complete. Speculate on how much time it would have taken to work alone. What problems would the students have faced in completing the project alone given the limited distribution of resources (scissors, crayons, etc.)? What would be good things about working alone? What would have been bad about working alone? Explain that the G8 countries have decided that for many issues, it is good for them to work together.

## United States



## Canada



## **France**

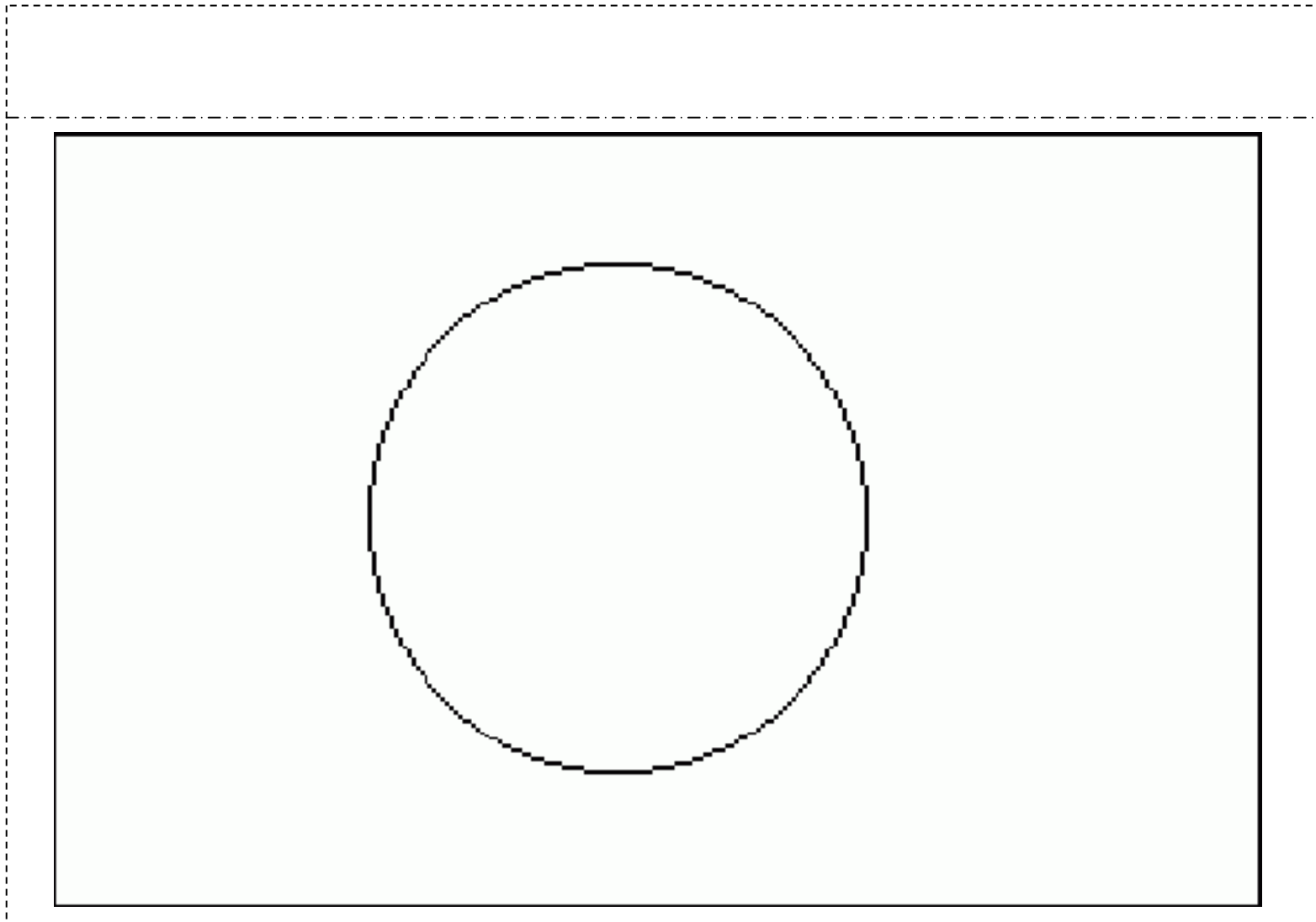
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## **Germany**


## Italy

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## Japan



[illegible]

## United Kingdom

